

# Around The State



March 2015

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

[Pi\(e\) in the Sky](#), March 14, 9am, Sitka

[Epic Pi-Day Breakfast in Soldotna](#), March 14, 9am, Soldotna

[Pi Day, Homer!](#), March 14, 9:26am, Homer

[Peace of Pi](#), March 14, 11:30am, Juneau

[3rd ANNUAL MARCH BIRTHDAY FLASH MOB](#), March 14, 1pm, Seward

[Let's have a slice of pie on Pi Day!](#), March 14, 2pm, Ketchikan

[Pi Day Celebration](#), March 14, 5:30pm, Fairbanks

[IV + I = MO' PIE!](#), March 14, 6:28pm, Anchorage

[3.14.15 @ 9:26pm & 53 seconds!!!](#), March 14, 9:26pm,  
Anchorage

[Geocaching for Fun - SCS EduVent](#), March 16, 6:30pm,  
Soldotna

[How to Build and Hide a Geocache - SCS EduVent](#),  
March 18, 6:30pm, Soldotna

[Maker Madness 2015](#), March 31, 6pm, Anchorage



*Photo credit: twinkywalks (Kacy Grundhauser) while in Seward*

# GeocacheAlaska! Updates

## President's Corner

By Wes Skinner / NorthWes



Keep your eye on upcoming events – these are where you'll meet your fellow cachers, learn something new and useful about the game, and generally just have a great time together while earning a smiley in return. I regret every event I have to miss, because I miss much much more than that extra 'find' added to my numbers. I miss spending time with the individuals who contribute so much variety to our game here in Alaska, I miss learning, and I miss the sense of community such events create. Don't miss out – make sure to make events a priority on your activity calendar! And don't hesitate to dive in and host an event of your own. Wacky or intently serious, events are the social side of our game that everyone enjoys.

The recent Fur Rondy Event and Parade stand as a great example of just how much fun can be had in a group effort to go just that little bit extra beyond ordinary. Op\_Beardo and akloisandclark built an iconic float, and a certain evil twin's photo of that float in the parade gained worldwide attention on Groundspeak's twitter feed. A great idea, some work in a backyard, an event listing... and there's GeocacheAlaska's team on a world stage. Pretty good stuff, and an accomplishment that's made great memories for everyone involved. What's the next big event idea? Check out our website's information on how you can receive support from GeocacheAlaska! for your own event. And keep an eye out for new event listings in the near future!

## Editor's Notes

By Cathy Wilmeth / The\_Firefly

Wow - LOTS of great information in this issue! It looks great. I see that there are a LOT of events being held in March. I wonder if we could fill the April issue with photos and stories from these events?

The submission deadline for the April issue of *Around The State* is **March 25, 2015**. I'm happy to help with any questions or concerns you may have about submitting! Send to [editor@geocachealaska.org](mailto:editor@geocachealaska.org).

## Top Tens: Alaskan Cacher's Caching Achievements

By Scott Aleckson / SSO JOAT

This month's Top Ten list of Alaskan Cacher's Caching Achievements is a revisit of those who have found the Most Caches in Alaska. We first looked at this statistic one year ago. As before, we're not counting any of those caches that they found Outside of the Great Land...

- #1 Tundra Tim = 5,296
- #2 li1gray = 5,007
- #3 cavyguy = 4,442
- #4 AKbike&ski = 4,170
- #5 Ladybug Kids = 4,157
- #6 meljo = 4,042
- #7 tomanoble = 3,552
- #8 Karma! = 3,528 (spot formerly held by blazingpathways)
- #9 blazingpathways = 3,421 (spot formerly held by Karma!)
- #10 southeastalaska = 3,251 (spot formerly held by omonra)

The order of the top 7 positions did not change, though everyone's cache counts went up. There was a switch in the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> positions, and we have a new name in the tenth spot. There are currently 6,355 caches in the State of Alaska, which is up from about 5,600 one year ago. Some of these amazing Alaskan cachers have found most of them!

Look for another revisited Top Ten list next month.



# GeocacheAlaska! Updates

## GeocacheAlaska! is now on Instagram

*By Scott Aleckson / SSO JOAT*

In our continuing efforts to find ways to help our organization and members connect on social media, we have launched a new Instagram account. Instagram is an application for smartphones that allows quick uploading of photos, which can be tagged in various ways for easy association with people and subjects. Our Instagram account can be viewed at <https://instagram.com/geocachealaska>. If you are on Instagram, please “follow” us. For those who haven’t tried Instagram, it is a free app for your smartphone if you want to give it a try.

Geocaching.com has been using Instagram very successfully to allow cachers to tag photos of their geocaching activities, which are then easily searchable by other users. The official hashtags used by geocaching.com are #geocaching and #gogeocaching. (The #gogeocaching tag is primarily used on Pinterest, but has carried over to Instagram as well). Anyone who includes these hashtags in the comment field of their uploaded photo will have that photo appear in geocaching.com’s Instagram feed.

GeocacheAlaska! has an account under the user tag @geocachealaska and we are asking all our Instagram users to hash tag their geocaching in Alaska photos with #geocachealaska so that their photos will appear in searches under that one hash tag for Alaska geocaching. You can also “mention” us by including @geocachealaska in your comments field. To connect with the greater geocaching world, don’t forget to include the #geocaching and #gogeocaching tag as well. Note that you only need to type in these tags once and they will then appear on your quick list when tagging photos that you are uploading. So it is very simple to add tags to photos as you load them.

The app is very easy to use. When you look at your Instagram feed, you will see the photos posted by those you are following in chronological order. You can “like” photos and you may also add comments to other’s photos. Each photo allows for a long chain of comments and discussion. The user tags and hash tags are clickable links, and by clicking on a tag you will immediately be provided a search results list of photos with the same tag. For example, if you click the #geocachealaska tag, you’ll see a chronological list of all the photos posted by everyone who has tagged their photos with #geocachealaska. This makes it fun and easy to see photos from many other cachers immediately.

As with many social media applications, the success is dependent on users getting involved. Our account has been online only a couple weeks now, but

we’ve already picked up nearly 70 followers including the folks at Groundspeak with the official gogeocaching account. So, if you use your smartphone camera for taking pictures while geocaching, consider adding the Instagram app and uploading your photos with the #geocachealaska tag to help us spread the word about geocaching in Alaska through pictures.

We are also looking for a team of field photographers to post photos under the official GeocacheAlaska! account. We have already brought a couple of our members into this group so that we can have photos being posted from various areas of the state and from geocaching events in real time. If you fancy yourself a decent photographer and would like to help GeocacheAlaska! put out some great photos, contact me at [webmaster@geocachealaska.org](mailto:webmaster@geocachealaska.org) to find out how you can help. In essence, we will provide selected Alaska members with our Instagram account login credentials so they can post photos in the name of GeocacheAlaska! while they are attending events or just out geocaching.

## Advocacy

*By Wes Skinner / NorthWes*

While Advocacy is one of GeocacheAlaska’s most significant missions, it’s often overlooked or underestimated in importance by members. Three questions in the membership survey probed member understanding of the Advocacy efforts made by the organization.

The first question in this section asked “Are you aware that GeocacheAlaska! obtains a permit from Alaska State Parks on an annual basis that allows geocachers to place geocaches within many of our State Park lands?” The Board was pleased that fully 7 out of 8 respondents were aware of the State Park permit secured by GeocacheAlaska! Inc’s Advocacy Committee.

The second question in this section asked “Have you placed a geocache using our Alaska State Parks permit during the last 3 years?” Fully one in five members appear to be taking advantage of the Parks permit to place caches, which 100% of our membership can then enjoy making finds on across the course of a year. A major advantage of our State Park permit is its cachet of approval for geocaching on intensively-managed state lands, which means we can use our Parks permit as a reference to demonstrate to other land managers just how effective our organization can be in a relationship with professional land managers. The Board is pleased to see at least 20% of members are placing caches under the permit, which means countless other geocachers are able to access cache-hunting opportunities all across our state park system. Efforts are underway to

# GeocacheAlaska! Updates

better educate membership about geocaching opportunities on state park lands, including a set of shape files residing on the website which define parkland borders.

The third Advocacy-related question polled respondents about which of two statements most closely identified their perception of GeocacheAlaska! Inc. More than four out of five selected the statement “The state-wide Alaskan geocaching organization” versus “That geocaching club in Anchorage”. While most members see the statewide mission of GeocacheAlaska! Inc. versus simply an Anchorage club, individual remarks pointed out the relative weaknesses of the organization across the entire state. With over half of the state’s population found in Southcentral Alaska (centered on Anchorage) a certain weighted average of members and events are expected to be from that region. Since the organization was created over five years ago there has been a constant attempt to draw in members and board participation from regions outside of the Anchorage-centric Southcentral area. The Board is currently working to find a member at large to appoint to an empty position, and recruiting is focused on interior Alaska and Fairbanks. An additional special effort is underway to identify and reach out to individual cachers outside the Anchorage/Southcentral area who would take on hosting events in their hometowns. This would expose cachers across the state to GeocacheAlaska! Inc.’s activities in Advocacy, Education, and social interaction opportunities with fellow cachers. The statewide reach of the State Parks permit alone shows how the organization benefits all geocachers in Alaska, not just the population in Southcentral. However, an ideal situation would see a much higher percentage of those cachers living outside Anchorage participating as Sourdough members in the future. If you’re interested in how GeocacheAlaska! Inc. can help you promote advocacy, education, and social interaction in your community, contact us to learn more (links are on the website).

## Communications Committee response to Membership Survey

*By Scott Aleckson / SSO JOAT*

As Webmaster and Chair of the Communications Committee, I would like to thank the members who participated in the Membership Survey we conducted last November. In last month’s newsletter, we provided you with all the geeky statistics from the survey in raw numbers. Looking just at the questions about our organization’s communication activities, there was some good feedback to help us focus our efforts in the right areas going forward. It is tough to keep things running in an organization of our size with purely volunteer labor, so ensuring that we put those limited volunteer hours to good use is very important. Let’s

look at the communications areas of the survey in a little more detail.

The first question asked about visitation to our organization’s website. To summarize the visitation, we have about 47% of our members visiting regularly, about 32% visiting periodically, and about 21% visiting rarely. There were nearly 30 open ended responses about our website with a number of them suggesting that we upgrade the website with several specific requests for what people want to see on the site. The specific requests are the most valuable, since those are things we can take action on.

Let’s take a moment and look at the status of our website. The site was built many years ago by the founders of GeocacheAlaska! using the now obsolete Microsoft FrontPage software. Due to the way that FrontPage works, only FrontPage can be used to edit or add to the existing website. In addition to “old school” HTML, FrontPage uses a number of internal programming features to render a website. The only way to get out from under a FrontPage website is to build a completely new website from the ground up and then replace the entire old site with a new site. Because of this, the “look” of our website has remained unchanged since the beginning, though all of the content is still regularly kept up to date. We are constantly verifying links on the website, adding new ones and removing old ones that no longer work. The contents of the pages are all up to date with new newsletters and land manager information always kept current. We have an extensive library of EduVent presentations and a notable photo gallery with hundreds of new photos posted over the last couple years.

The good news is that work has been underway on building a new website for some time. The plan is to have notable expansion of the educational section of the website so you may view educational articles right on the website without downloading PDF files. Our extensive land manager information will remain a key portion of the website as well. The main page of our site will continue to hold the latest news about happenings within the organization with links to all of our associated social media still in place, as they are now. We will finally separate from the old FrontPage interface into current HTML 5 and CSS standards, so that the site will view better on current browsers and even mobile devices.

A new feature that is being worked on right now is the ability of our members to log into an SQL server to view and keep up to date with their membership information. The setup and programming of this aspect of the site is fairly extensive with many more hours that will have to be invested before the site is ready to “go live”.

Another area of our website is the mail order store. We currently use the PayPal shopping cart system and do not employ any kind of internal shopping cart.

# GeocacheAlaska! Updates

Once again, a new SQL based shopping cart system is being considered for our website. This will provide a more modern interface with our mail order store, but it will also allow us to eliminate the two different store pages for the different member classifications. That part of our current store can certainly be confusing, especially to our Sourdough members who are looking to get their member discounts. The programming to get all of this setup is extensive, but the results should be worth the effort and the wait.

There was also a question about our discussion forums on the survey. The responses showed that only 20% regularly visit the forums, about 7% periodically visit, and a full 73% of the responding members rarely or never visit the forums. There were several suggestions made in the open ended responses, though most of the suggestions are not possible to implement. Our discussion forums are a set software package that is hosted by another company on their servers. It is separate from our website and we have limited control over the functional elements of the forum software. What we can change are the colors and names and layout of the discussion boards. Currently, the area of the forums that is most used is not accessible to the public. The Board of Directors and the various Committees use private and hidden boards to conduct business discussions. The public areas of the forums are there for anyone to use. With the proliferation of the Facebook Group, the public use of our forums has dropped off significantly. Couple the fact that the majority of members don't use the forums and we have very limited volunteer hours to direct at maintaining our website and other social media ventures, the forums will likely remain low on the priority list for implementing any further changes.

That brings us to the next section of the survey, which asked about Facebook usage. We have an official GeocacheAlaska! Facebook Page and we also have a Facebook Group. On the survey, our responders indicated that about 60% of them regularly use Facebook, about 1% periodically uses Facebook, and about 39% rarely use Facebook. As Facebook has the majority of users amongst all of our social media outlets, this is an area where we have and will continue to focus attention. We are working on pushing more up-to-date news and information to our Facebook Page feed to keep folks informed on what's happening. We have recently started to post a night before event reminder for all events published in Alaska. We are looking for more ways to try and provide information to those who follow us by social media.

Our Facebook Group has become the center of discussion for geocaching in Alaska. The function of the Group has pretty much taken over what our forums used to do. Members can post questions or have discussions about various aspects of caching. The responses are nearly real time, so it is easy for someone with a geocaching question to post it in our Group and quickly have a number

of responses from other geocachers. We've found that a lot of new geocachers are using the Group to learn the basics of geocaching. From that standpoint, the Facebook Group is a shining success and we will try to keep it productive and friendly.

After a little feedback for our Editor about this great Newsletter that you are reading, we finally asked about the methods of communication that our members prefer. The overwhelming winner was direct email with over 88% indicating that as their preference. Second to that was this Newsletter at about 55% preference. The next most popular methods were the Facebook Page, our website, and then the Facebook Group. Based on these results, we will continue to put a lot of effort into this Newsletter, though it is up to our members to help us with that by providing information to publish in the way of short articles, photos, adventure stories and the like. We are looking at ways to utilize direct email without overstepping that line which could put GeocacheAlaska! into your junk mail box. Currently, we use direct email for rare announcements in between the monthly Newsletter mailing. As mentioned previously, use of the Facebook Page to distribute current information is high on the list of priorities as is the website itself. It takes a lot of work to put all these things together and our volunteer time is limited.

Our members are always welcome to provide direct suggestions to me at [webmaster@geocachealaska.org](mailto:webmaster@geocachealaska.org) if you have ideas or requests for any of our social media outlets from the website to the forums to Facebook or Twitter or Instagram or YouTube or any other means of communication that you would like us to look into. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions, comments, or suggestions about any aspect of our organization's communications methods.

## Education Survey Response

*By Wes Skinner / NorthWes*

Education is one of GeocacheAlaska! Inc.'s primary missions. Our recent membership survey asked four questions about the Education activities, ranging from what's been done to what members would like to see done. Here's the four questions, and how the board is in general perceiving member feedback.

The first education question asked "Have you attended (in person) any GeocacheAlaska!-hosted Educational Event (EduVent) at a formal event site (either hosting or satellite) during the last 12 months?" Those who said yes totaled 48%, while 52% had not attended an EduVent in the past year. The next

# GeocacheAlaska! Updates

# Recent Events

question asked if members had attended an EduVent via remote connection in the past twelve months, which 24% of respondents answered as 'yes'. The response to these two questions indicates members highly value our EduVents, and the board intends to ensure we continue to do our best to present informative and interesting topics which help geocachers at all skill levels.

The third question asked what topic was most useful, and 43% of respondents took time to write out individual answers. Sessions on GSAK (Geocaching Swiss Army Knife – the database management program that manages a myriad of aspects of the game) were most often mentioned, with basic skill topics, puzzle caches, safety, earthcaching and events mentioned frequently as well. Board perception of these responses indicates a need for topic presentations across the spectrum from beginning skills to the most sophisticated techniques, all of which appear produce satisfaction from members.

Question four asked respondents what they'd like to see in future EduVent presentations. A concise list of 'first choice' requested topics follows:

- |                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Puzzles - 6         | AK specific caching - 2  |
| GSAK - 4            | Using GPS - 2            |
| Building caches - 4 | Hosting events - 2       |
| Smartphone app - 3  | Night/winter caching - 1 |
| Hiding caches - 3   | Earthcaches – 1          |
| Land ownership - 1  |                          |

This list closely follows responses to the inquiry about what past events were deemed most valuable. It's evident that there's significant interest in learning some of the most popular ways to solve puzzle caches, together with an interest in programs such as GSAK and smartphone apps which help enhance geocaching success in the field. Your Board is seeking to focus upcoming EduVent presentations on these topics, with a goal of equipping members to be more effective across all types of caches and programs which improve success at finding caches.

A key necessary ingredient identified by the Board for continued success is a fresh supply of volunteer presenters, able to effectively communicate and hold attendee interest. The Board is also looking for persons to serve on the Education committee, including a chairperson. If you're interested in these opportunities, contact Wes Skinner (NorthWes) and let him know you'd like to join GeocacheAlaska! Inc's Education efforts.

## Geocache Alaska joins the Fur Rondy Parade!

Check out the float built by Andrew Harrell / Op\_Beardo and Trish Fredieu / AKLoisandClark! That ammo can is trackable...but you have to see it in person to get the code.



Check out a slideshow of how they built the float [here](#).

Photos by Ray Menzie / akgh519.

# Recommended Caches

## Alaska's Unfound Caches

By Tom Noble / tomanoble

This all started when Karma! published [GC5BRXR](#) Alaska's Lonely Cache Challenge. While looking for geocaches that qualified for this Challenge Cache I started wondering how many unfound caches existed in Alaska. After helping compile the list of geocaches in Alaska State Parks my interest in this question was renewed by the number of unfound caches I was discovering. So I downloaded all the geocaches currently not archived in Alaska to GSAK and searched for caches that were unfound. This is best done adding a column named LAST FOUND and simply scrolling down that column looking for blank spots, which indicates when that specific was last found. After figuring out which Alaskan geocaches listed on Geocaching.com were unfound. I decided to check out which other listing sites had unfound Alaskan geocaches. Terracaching.com and GPSGames.com both require one to establish accounts in order to see geocaches listed on their sites. And being less inclined to do that, I didn't. Navicache.com and Opencaching.com both require accounts to publish and log caches on their sites but it is possible, with a little ingenuity, to search their cache listings.

The following table lists all the UNFOUND GEOCACHES IN ALASKA I was able to identify by this method. The Geocaching.com caches are listed by date placed and Navicache.com and Opencaching.com caches by where they are listed.

Code	Cache type	Waypoint Name	Placed By	Placed	Container	Diff	Terrain
<u>GEOCACHING.COM</u>							
GC1259	Traditional Cache	Kougarok	J.O. Keener	6/23/2001	Micro	4	2
GC7584	Multicache	Toothy Travel Bug Cache	Dinosaur and Friends	7/16/2002	Micro	5	5
GCJ3WC	Traditional Cache	Ivan's Eye	freya's friend Miles	4/5/2004	Regular	5	2.5
GCHXYA	Traditional Cache	False Pass Stash	SkookumRed	12/14/2004	Regular	5	1
GCWV3P	Traditional Cache	Little Island Cove Cache	Nanuk of the North	6/5/2006	Regular	2	5
GCWJAP	Traditional Cache	rainy day	lakeandpen	6/12/2006	Small	1.5	2
GCX3QV	Traditional Cache	Vista Del Agua	BoyDad	7/11/2006	Regular	1.5	1.5
GCXTE7	Traditional Cache	Sylvester Glacier	zunidoo	8/10/2006	Small	3	4.5
GCYX7A	Traditional Cache	dead end logging road	smwwwoody	10/14/2006	Regular	1.5	5
GCYPMN	Unknown Cache	The Alaska Borough and Census Area Challenge	GeocacheAlaska	2/20/2008	Regular	5	5
GC1BGW1	Traditional Cache	APRD	AKGeoSeeker	4/22/2008	Small	1	1
GC1CE9V	Traditional Cache	Mount Yukla Ridge Cache	MTboy	5/19/2008	Small	4	5
GC1HDVD	Traditional Cache	Victor Borge, er, Gorge	Ridgeseeker, Dano, George, and Geo	10/17/2008	Small	1.5	4.5
GC1QQ7D	Traditional Cache	Braves Cache	MEHS2009	4/29/2009	Small	3	1.5
GC1QYKR	Traditional Cache	Mtboy's Blue Eyed Mistress	Mtboy and Steve	5/3/2009	Small	2.5	4.5
GC1RAMG	Traditional Cache	Crafton Island Cache	AKJJJ	5/9/2009	Small	2	4
GC1RYZV	Traditional Cache	Mtboy's over the hill cache...	Mtboy	5/24/2009	Small	4	5
GC1VP5K	Traditional Cache	The Climb	Ak Six Pack & Hillbunch	7/5/2009	Small	1	5
GC1W079	Traditional Cache	Which Bridge?	nedwob	7/16/2009	Micro	2	1

## Recommended Caches

Code	Cache type	Waypoint Name	Placed By	Placed	Container	Diff	Terrain
GC1X0VT	Traditional Cache	Watcha Doing Out Here?	notecard	8/9/2009	Small	1.5	4.5
GC22BTP	Traditional Cache	The Lunch Box	Triplej	9/9/2009	Regular	4.5	2.5
GC252M9	Traditional Cache	captain Kaboom and the Two Toned Tio	arisjunior	3/14/2010	Small	1	3
GC25HRY	Traditional Cache	Honker Divide	AKCombers w/ Doug & Cheryl	3/23/2010	Small	4	5
GC28057	Unknown Cache	Illogical Illusions	cohofive	5/12/2010	Micro	4.5	2
GC2G0PH	Traditional Cache	Talkeetna Mtn.	farmfreak	7/28/2010	Small	4	4.5
GC2F5FC	Traditional Cache	Chugkeetna Mountain Cache	MTboy	9/13/2010	Small	1.5	4.5
GC2FARB	Traditional Cache	The narrow ascend	trundalady	9/18/2010	Small	2.5	5
GC2PDRC	Traditional Cache	Sinner's Swing	unchained527	9/27/2010	Micro	3.5	4
GC2GQFZ	Traditional Cache	Pilot Station Haunt	ilikebuttermilk	10/12/2010	Small	2	3.5
GC2MDN1	Traditional Cache	Kasigluk Haunt	ilikebuttermilk	1/14/2011	Micro	2.5	2.5
GC2WJ7Y	Traditional Cache	Kitty Lake Overlook	Ak_chameleon	3/20/2011	Regular	3	3.5
GC2X1P6	Traditional Cache	Tuluksak Haunt	ilikebuttermilk	5/12/2011	Micro	2.5	3
GC2ZE41	Traditional Cache	The Ice Fog Duckers: Ike,Susie,Sylvan,Tina,Phoebe	alaskagrown	7/2/2011	Regular	3.5	5
GC315TB	Traditional Cache	Phoenix Uprising!	dano99577	7/10/2011	Micro	1.5	4.5
GC30N0C	Traditional Cache	Marshall Haunt	ilikebuttermilk	7/20/2011	Micro	1.5	1.5
GC30QYP	Traditional Cache	A Rock Within A Rock	akwoodsfamily	7/23/2011	Small	4.5	2
GC319H4	Traditional Cache	Kachercache	theprime8, i,frolic	7/30/2011	Regular	2	2
GC328XH	Traditional Cache	Brooks Range - Valley Offshoot	thehitchhikers	8/10/2011	Small	3.5	4
GC323N2	Traditional Cache	Seat of Vancouver's Ancestors	Nelsons_Pop	8/12/2011	Regular	2	5
GC328X9	Traditional Cache	Brooks Range - Mathews River Valley Access	thehitchhikers	8/12/2011	Small	3	4
GC335JW	Traditional Cache	Lake Andrew state rec. Area	toepunch	8/28/2011	Small	1	1
GC33CYQ	Traditional Cache	Iditarod Trail Series RUBY	MTboy	9/9/2011	Micro	1.5	2.5
GC344HB	Traditional Cache	Uplifted	barnacle9	9/11/2011	Regular	2	4
GC34BGP	Traditional Cache	New York Creek Cache	ilikebuttermilk	9/11/2011	Micro	2	4
GC34BJ5	Traditional Cache	The Void	ilikebuttermilk	9/15/2011	Small	2	4
GC389YG	Traditional Cache	Wrong Mtn. Summit	Baradora	9/28/2011	Micro	1.5	4.5
GC357KJ	Traditional Cache	strawberry island geocache	eaglefamilyrobinson	10/1/2011	Small	2	2
GC35H8B	Traditional Cache	Tenakee Tarp Tub	twinblade88	10/7/2011	Regular	5	5
GC38X2Z	Traditional Cache	Russian Mission Haunt	ilikebuttermilk	12/6/2011	Micro	1.5	1.5
GC3EZXM	Traditional Cache	Iditarod Cache--Koyuk	MTboy	3/12/2012	Small	2.5	4
GC3P37H	Traditional Cache	Estrada's Cabin arizona	troutbum	6/22/2012	Small	2	5
GC3PNRR	Traditional Cache	Island Cruise	fabiananddanica	6/27/2012	Small	1.5	1.5
GC3Q28R	Traditional Cache	Dahl Creek Geocache - (DCK)	MTFireFlyer	7/4/2012	Small	1.5	1.5
GC3Q75K	Traditional Cache	LALA'S CACHE	ONESPIRIT555	7/4/2012	Small	1.5	1.5
GC3R2Y7	Traditional Cache	Forever Young	Ericsupertrampdo	7/23/2012	Small	2	3
GC3TGWG	Traditional Cache	Valdez-Nelchina mail route?	MTboy	8/11/2012	Small	3.5	4



## Recommended Caches

Code	Cache type	Waypoint Name	Placed By	Placed	Container	Diff	Terrain
GC3TK68	Unknown Cache	Yesterday's News!	TheBlueStar	8/13/2012	Micro	5	1.5
GC3TK7T	Traditional Cache	SAAS: Spider Monkey	skifast	8/14/2012	Small	1.5	4.5
GC3WJA2	Traditional Cache	Where The Caribou Roam	deucethegoalie	9/9/2012	Small	3	3
GC3WM4J	Traditional Cache	A Beautiful Drive	ilikebuttermilk	9/11/2012	Micro	3.5	2
GC465Y4	Traditional Cache	Salt Chuck Mine	AK Beachcombers	2/17/2013	Micro	3	2.5
GC46KFX	Traditional Cache	Skull Island	KUNOA and IOLANA	2/24/2013	Regular	3	1.5
GC4BEAW	Traditional Cache	Cavy de Mayo	the ET's	5/5/2013	Small	4	2.5
GC48PNR	Traditional Cache	Black Herring	The 'ETs'	5/22/2013	Micro	5	3
GC4C79N	Earthcache	Big Denali	Anna	5/23/2013	Not chosen	5	5
GC4DH3H	Traditional Cache	Culross Camp	StacyAK	6/1/2013	Micro	4	3
GC4G9WB	Traditional Cache	Lower Kalskag Haunt	ilikebuttermilk	6/18/2013	Micro	2.5	1.5
GC4F883	Traditional Cache	Burn barrel	trillia	6/29/2013	Small	1.5	1.5
GC4FTC0	Traditional Cache	Pat-a-Lake	dnkpowell	7/7/2013	Small	2	2
GC4HDTC	Earthcache	Santa's Backyard	EVL2	7/19/2013	Not chosen	4	4
GC4HM8M	Traditional Cache	Jonah's Revenge	Allroof, Zakaron27	7/31/2013	Small	1.5	1.5
GC4HZXX	Traditional Cache	Raven's Roost, Amook Island	smpharmes	8/4/2013	Large	5	5
GC4K8NC	Traditional Cache	Rescue Harbor	Socorro	8/10/2013	Micro	2.5	3
GC4M0MB	Traditional Cache	Serpentine Hill	emeindl	8/25/2013	Small	2	3
GC4RFYT	Traditional Cache	Atmautluak Haunt	ilikebuttermilk	8/28/2013	Micro	2	1.5
GC4MQ7C	Traditional Cache	The future will soar!	mmmorgan13	8/29/2013	Small	2.5	3.5
GC4QX8J	Traditional Cache	Mt. Sukakpak Final Ascent	Ester13	9/21/2013	Regular	2	4.5
GC4PNJW	Traditional Cache	Take Flight	HillBillies	10/5/2013	Large	1.5	4
GC516Q1	Traditional Cache	Eek Cache	ilikebuttermilk	1/21/2014	Micro	2	2
GC4XN1V	Traditional Cache	Snowshoe or ???	akgh519	2/23/2014	Micro	1.5	2.5
GC50K51	Traditional Cache	Iditarod Cache: Cripple	MTboy	3/18/2014	Small	2.5	5
GC50NHM	Traditional Cache	Satan's Two Brothers 10--The Final Chapter Begins	N'oreasters	3/20/2014	Small	1.5	1.5
GC5163P	Traditional Cache	The Stock Cache	Lil'O'Lady	3/22/2014	Regular	2	3
GC54GKD	Traditional Cache	Caches' Cache	Ester13	4/11/2014	Small	4	4
GC53YC2	Traditional Cache	Nightmute Haunt	ilikebuttermilk	4/17/2014	Micro	2	3
GC53B5Y	Traditional Cache	'Murica!	Dmahny88	4/24/2014	Regular	1.5	4
GC55V1A	Traditional Cache	Power #5	Awloo	5/14/2014	Small	1	2
GC55V3D	Traditional Cache	In Case of Tsunami	Awloo	5/14/2014	Small	1.5	2
GC550YZ	Traditional Cache	Kivalina's First!	Suzalynn	5/17/2014	Small	1.5	1
GC55FZR	Traditional Cache	Public Lands Geocache Pursuit/Quartz Lake	alaskacenters	5/23/2014	Large	2	2
GC57CQR	Traditional Cache	Shungnak Cache - (PAGH)	MTFireFlyer	6/19/2014	Small	2	2
GC57EAM	Traditional Cache	Three Pillar Point Beach	candaceamelia	6/21/2014	Small	2	3
GC57EAR	Traditional Cache	Three Pillar Point Trail	candaceamelia	6/21/2014	Small	2	3

## Recommended Caches

Code	Cache type	Waypoint Name	Placed By	Placed	Container	Diff	Terrain
GC57GGJ	Traditional Cache	Camping cove	kgbush & kids	6/22/2014	Small	2.5	2.5
GC57WK3	Traditional Cache	I lost the trail	candaceamelia	6/28/2014	Small	2	4
GC57YA9	Traditional Cache	Sink hole or Fissure?	SailorGirlRN	6/29/2014	Large	4	5
GC589RG	Traditional Cache	Mini Meadow (rubbermaid ?)	candaceamelia	7/4/2014	Small	1.5	1.5
GC589RJ	Traditional Cache	Rubbermaid 2 ?	candaceamelia	7/4/2014	Micro	1	1.5
GC58EKM	Traditional Cache	'bou view!	akgh519	7/4/2014	Small	2	4
GC59312	Traditional Cache	Moose Overwatch	HillBillies	7/17/2014	Other	1.5	1.5
GC594GW	Traditional Cache	The tip of the spear	MTboy	7/18/2014	Small	3.5	4.5
GC596GZ	Traditional Cache	Sharptail Grouse with Blueberries	HillBillies	7/19/2014	Other	1.5	1.5
GC59PYT	Traditional Cache	How's the Weather in Golovin	SailorGirlRN	7/27/2014	Micro	1	1.5
GC5A836	Traditional Cache	Swampy Acres	candaceamelia	8/1/2014	Micro	2.5	2.5
GC5B0N1	Traditional Cache	Hill Climb	Tundra Tim	8/9/2014	Small	1.5	4
GC5AKHB	Traditional Cache	Captain Kaboom: Way the Freak up Boulder Creek	arisjunior	8/10/2014	Regular	2	3
GC5AKJ0	Traditional Cache	Captain Kaboom and the Tri-Z Triple Tree	arisjunior	8/10/2014	Regular	2	4.5
GC5C88K	Traditional Cache	The true lair of the bear	MTboy	8/23/2014	Regular	2.5	4
GC5BWXP	Traditional Cache	Captain Kaboom and the bucket and the mop	arisjunior	8/29/2014	Regular	1.5	4.5
GC5C2H1	Traditional Cache	Logging Cabin Creek	HillBillies	8/31/2014	Other	1.5	1.5
GC5C2HA	Traditional Cache	Planetary Defence	HillBillies	8/31/2014	Other	1.5	3.5
GC5C2HG	Traditional Cache	Camp	HillBillies	8/31/2014	Other	1.5	2.5
GC5C5QD	Traditional Cache	Captain Kaboom and the Purches Peek	arisjunior	9/2/2014	Regular	1.5	4
GC5C793	Traditional Cache	Captain Kaboom and the Saddle Stone	arisjunior	9/2/2014	Regular	2	4
GC5CKBH	Traditional Cache	Afraid of Heights?	Ha'Tsi	9/8/2014	Small	2	4
GC5CNMC	Traditional Cache	Captain Kaboom and the Blew Skye Mind	arisjunior	9/10/2014	Regular	1.5	4
GC5CNMP	Traditional Cache	Captain Kaboom and the Golden Staircase	arisjunior	9/10/2014	Regular	1.5	4
GC5CNMX	Traditional Cache	Captain Kaboom and the Edge of the Earth	arisjunior	9/10/2014	Regular	1.5	4
GC5CXCH	Traditional Cache	Canyon Island	Mholm1	9/13/2014	Micro	2	5
GC5D0GV	Traditional Cache	Barrel Point	Mholm1	9/14/2014	Micro	2	4
GC5D0HH	Traditional Cache	The Fireweed Patch	Mholm1	9/14/2014	Micro	2	4
GC5DB5N	Traditional Cache	FYU Airport Cache	Flagday62	9/20/2014	Regular	1	1.5
GC5FBDR	Traditional Cache	Mt. Sukakpak Lunch Spot	Ester13	9/20/2014	Regular	2	4
GC5DF7X	Traditional Cache	Indigo	Ha'Tsi	9/22/2014	Small	1.5	4
GC5DJFV	Traditional Cache	Sunny	Ha'Tsi	9/24/2014	Small	1	4
GC5DKC7	Traditional Cache	Oh Rion!	'eccc' & 'ecc5'	9/24/2014	Small	2	3.5
GC5DM4P	Traditional Cache	Little Diomedes's First!	Suzalynn	9/25/2014	Small	1.5	4
GC5DNK3	Traditional Cache	Camo Cabin	Ha'Tsi	9/26/2014	Small	1.5	4
GC5DVD2	Traditional Cache	Captain Kaboom and the Seventh Sacred Pool	arisjunior	9/28/2014	Regular	1.5	4
GC5DVDA	Traditional Cache	Captain Kaboom: Up Short Creek Without a Petal	arisjunior	9/28/2014	Regular	1.5	4

## Recommended Caches

Code	Cache type	Waypoint Name	Placed By	Placed	Container	Diff	Terrain
GC5563X	Traditional Cache	'Karmageddon'...the beginning!	the 'ECC'	9/30/2014	Micro	3	3
GC5ECCB	Traditional Cache	Graveyard Point Lookout	AK Beachcombers	10/6/2014	Micro	2.5	3
GC5FGZP	Traditional Cache	Rippy Trail	ilikebuttermilk	10/17/2014	Micro	1.5	1.5
GC5FH00	Traditional Cache	On a Clear Day ...	ilikebuttermilk	10/17/2014	Small	2	2.5
GC5F2G1	Traditional Cache	Birdseye View	AKACRider	10/18/2014	Micro	2.5	4
GC596WW	Traditional Cache	ATGA2	Arf!	10/28/2014	Micro	1.5	4.5
GC5HFR2	Traditional Cache	Pain de Sucre	LD, PN, JA	11/11/2014	Regular	2	4
GC5GQYT	Traditional Cache	Little Su Scramble	Ha'Tsi	11/19/2014	Small	1.5	4
GC5GZ55	Traditional Cache	N'oreasters you didn't stump me this time	firemanak	11/23/2014	Micro	3.5	3.5
GC5GPYH	Traditional Cache	FEELING CORNERED!!!	jackcat14	11/28/2014	Micro	4	1.5
GC5HEDN	Traditional Cache	Trails of the pioneers--Fresno Creek	MTboy	12/4/2014	Regular	1.5	3.5
GC5HP7Z	Traditional Cache	Woodland Nano #2	jackcat14	12/10/2014	Other	4	2.5
GC5JYYY	Traditional Cache	Shell Game	Ridgeseeker and Suzaru	12/13/2014	Small	2	3.5
GC5J127	Traditional Cache	Davidson's Landing Trail End	amyjeanjennings	12/18/2014	Regular	2	2
GC5JZ5C	Traditional Cache	QUEEN - Crazy Little Thing Called Love..bfosm#7	Op_Beardo	1/8/2015	Other	5	2.5
GC5KAXC	Traditional Cache	I Want To Play A Game #2: Trust Issues	AKACRider	1/16/2015	Micro	1	1.5
GC5KCX1	Traditional Cache	I Want To Play A Game #3: Take A Ride	And A Break AKACRider	1/17/2015	Small	1.5	5
GC5KCXD	Traditional Cache	Top Of The World	AKACRider	1/17/2015	Small	2	5
GC5DJJ1	Unknown Cache	It's what's on the inside that counts!	The_Firefly	1/19/2015	Small	3.5	2.5
GC5M8CT	Traditional Cache	Ace	barnacle9	2/3/2015	Regular	1.5	2
GC5N9DT	Traditional Cache	Tanana Overlook	Tribulation Trail Gang	2/22/2015	Regular	2	2.5
GC5N9G2	Unknown Cache	Never Ending Alaskan Nights	AKACRider	2/22/2015	Small	3.5	3.5

### NAVICACHE.ORG

Traditional Cache	Angel's Bear Paw	poss ume llaroo	6/27/2010	N 65 01.479	W 149 11.894
Traditional Cache	Spring1	glindquist	6/19/2008	N 65 29.073	W 144 38.640

### OPENCACHING.ORG

OU00FB	Virtual	Denali "The High One"	Cachegeek	11/8/2010	N 63 19.387	W 149 08.420
OU00E7	Traditional Cache	Itsy Bitsy	Cachegeek	11/5/2010	N 61 27.713	W 149 21.607

# Caching Tricks, Tips, and Tools

## Reviewer's Corner

By Michael Malvick / Greatland Reviewer



### Know Before You Go (part 3)

As announced in last month's newsletter, GeocacheAlaska! has a blanket permit with Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation for placement of traditional geocaches and Earthcaches within the Alaska State Parks lands. The current permit is **15-KA-1994** and is valid through **12/31/2020**. A downloadable copy of the permit may be found [here](#). Please read and comply with all the stipulations prior to placing a cache in the affected State Park areas.

At a high level, all caches must have the permit number on the inside of the cache along with the cache owner's contact information. On the outside of the cache, you must write "**Alaska State Parks Permit #15-KA-1994 GeocacheAlaska**" in permanent marking. The cache listing must state "Cache placed under GeocacheAlaska! Park Use Permit #15-KA-1994" within the description section. In order to speed up publishing a new cache under this permit, write a Reviewer Note that states that you have complied with all terms of this permit and describe your geocache container. Containers must be durable, watertight, animal-resistant and no greater in size than a "regular" 50-cal ammo can.

The State Parks land parcels that are covered by the permit are listed below. You may click on the parcel name to download a gpx file of the parcel's boundaries to upload to your GPS or use with GoogleEarth, Garmin Basecamp, Garmin Mapsource, and many other mapping applications.

To download a file, click on the park name, choose "Save As," and select the desired location on your hard drive. Once the file is on your hard drive, double click on the file, click "Extract all files," keep the existing name or change the name, and click "extract." Now that the file is unzipped, it is ready to be used in any number of applications.

[Zipped folder of ALL affected Alaska State Parks \(1.5MB\)](#)

[Afognak Island State Park.zip](#)

[Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve.zip](#)

[Aleutian Islands State Marine Parks.zip](#)

[Alexander River Recreation River.zip](#)

[Anchor River State Recreation Area.zip](#)

[Baranof Castle State Historic Site.zip](#)

[Beecher Pass SMP.zip](#)

[Bettles Bay State Marine Park.zip](#)

[Big Bear Baby Bear Bays State Marine Park.zip](#)

[Big Delta State Historical Park.zip](#)

[Big Lake North State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Big Lake South State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Birch Lake State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Black Sands Beach State Marine Park.zip](#)

[Blair Lake State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Blueberry Lake State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Fort Abercrombie State Historical Park.zip](#)

[Funter Bay State Marine Park.zip](#)

[Goldstream Public Use Area.zip](#)

[Granite Bay State Marine Park.zip](#)

[Grindall Island State Marine Park.zip](#)

[Halibut Point State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Hanson Memorial State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Hanson Memorial State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Harding Lake State Recreation Area.zip](#)

[Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.zip](#)

[Horseshoe Bay State Marine Park.zip](#)

[Independence Mine State Historical Park.zip](#)

[Jack Bay State Marine Park.zip](#)

[Joe Mace Island State Marine Park.zip](#)

[Johnson Creek State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Johnson Lake State Recreation Area.zip](#)

[Pioneer Park State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Point Bridget State Park.zip](#)

[Porcupine Creek State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Portage Cove State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Potter Section House State Historic Site.zip](#)

[Quartz Lake State Recreation Area.zip](#)

[Refuge Cove State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Rocky Lake State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Safety Cove State Marine Park.zip](#)

[Saint James Bay State Marine Park.zip](#)

[Salcha River State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Sandspit Point State Marine Park.zip](#)

[Sawmill Bay State Marine Park.zip](#)

[Scout Lake State Recreation Site.zip](#)

[Security Bay State Marine Park.zip](#)

[Settlers Cove State Recreation Site.zip](#)

# Caching Tricks, Tips, and Tools

<a href="#">Bonnie Lake State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Kachemak Bay State and Wilderness Parks.zip</a>	<a href="#">Shelter Island State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Deep Creek State Recreation Area.zip</a>	<a href="#">Lowell Point State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">The Pillars Kenai River Special Management Area.zip</a>
<a href="#">Boswell Bay Beaches State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Kasilof River State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Shoup Bay State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Delta State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Lower Chatanika River State Recreation Area.zip</a>	<a href="#">Thoms Place State Marine Park.zip</a>
<a href="#">Buskin River State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Kayak Island State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Shoup Glacier State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Denali State Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Magoun Islands State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Thumb Cove State Marine Park.zip</a>
<a href="#">Caines Head State Recreation Area.zip</a>	<a href="#">Kenai River Special Management Area.zip</a>	<a href="#">Shuyak Island State Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Donnelly Creek State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Matanuska Glacier State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Tok River State Recreation Site.zip</a>
<a href="#">Canoe Passage State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Kepler-Bradley State Recreation Area.zip</a>	<a href="#">Skagway Campground.zip</a>	<a href="#">Driftwood Bay State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Montana Creek State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Tokositna River State Recreation Area.zip</a>
<a href="#">Captain Cook State Recreation Area.zip</a>	<a href="#">King Mountain State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">South Esther Island State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Dry Creek Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Moon Lake State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Totem Bight State Historical Park.zip</a>
<a href="#">Chena River State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Kroto Creek and Moose Creek State Recreation River.zip</a>	<a href="#">Squirrel Creek State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Dry Creek State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Mosquito Lake State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Upper Chatanika River State Recreation Site.zip</a>
<a href="#">Chilkat Islands State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Lake Aleknagik State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Stariski State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Eagle Beach State Recreation Area.zip</a>	<a href="#">Nancy Lake State Recreation Area.zip</a>	<a href="#">Upper Kasilof River State Recreation Area.zip</a>
<a href="#">Chilkoot Lake State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Lake Creek State Recreation River.zip</a>	<a href="#">Sullivan Island State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Eagle Trail State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Nancy Lake State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Wickersham State Historic Site.zip</a>
<a href="#">Chugach State Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Lake Louise State Recreation Area.zip</a>	<a href="#">Summit Lake State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Earnest Gruening State Historical Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Nelchina Public Use Area.zip</a>	<a href="#">Willow Creek State Recreation Area.zip</a>
<a href="#">Clam Gulch State Recreation Area.zip</a>	<a href="#">Lake View Campground.zip</a>	<a href="#">Sunny Cove State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Entry Cove State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Ninilchik State Recreation Area.zip</a>	<a href="#">Wolf Lake State Recreation Site.zip</a>
<a href="#">Clearwater State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Liberty Falls State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Surprise Cove State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Ernie Haugen Public Use Area.zip</a>	<a href="#">Old Sitka State Historical Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Wood-Tikchik State Park.zip</a>
<a href="#">Crooked Creek State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Little Nelchina State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Surprise Ridge State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Fielding Lake State Recreation Area.zip</a>	<a href="#">Oliver Inlet State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Worthington Glacier State Recreation Site.zip</a>
<a href="#">Dall Bay State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Little Susitna State Recreation River.zip</a>	<a href="#">Taku Harbor State Marine Park.zip</a>	<a href="#">Finger Lake State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Petroglyph Beach State Historical Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Ziegler Cove State Marine Park.zip</a>
<a href="#">Deadman Lake Campground.zip</a>	<a href="#">Little Tonsina State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Talachulitna State Recreation River.zip</a>			
<a href="#">Decision Point.zip</a>	<a href="#">Long Lake State Recreation Site.zip</a>	<a href="#">Talkeetna State Recreation River.zip</a>			

# Caching Tricks, Tips, and Tools

## Using Garmin Colorado, Oregon, Montana, or equivalent:

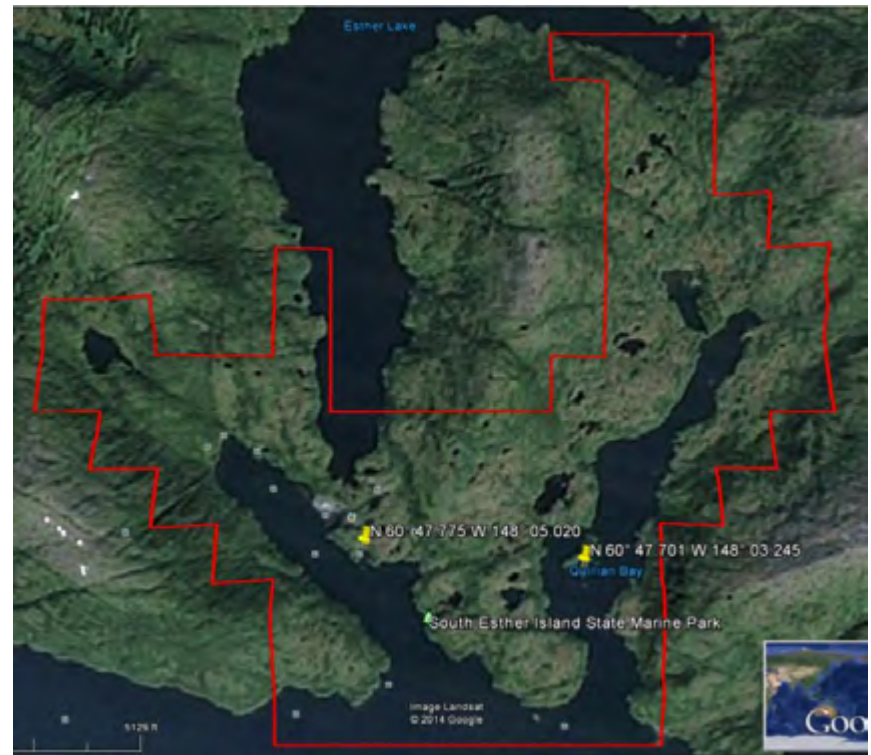
1. Copy the file to Garmin Oregon/Garmin/GPX folder. Alternatively, you may copy the file to the memory chip at Driveletter:Garmin/GPX.
2. Go to the "Track Manager" menu of your GPS.
3. Scroll down the list of tracks until you see the State Park Parcel you wish to view.
4. Select the State Park Parcel.
5. Select "View Map" to view the parcel on your GPS map.
6. Select "Set Color" to change the boundary color to a color of your choice.
7. You may toggle whether the parcel appears on your GPS by selecting "Show on Map/Hide on Map."
8. You may rename the parcel by selecting "Change Name."



4. Click "Show on Map" to view the parcel on your monitor.
5. To copy the file to your GPS, File>Save As>Save as Type \*.gpx > and save to Garmin Oregon/Garmin/GPX folder. Alternatively, you may save the file to the memory chip at Driveletter:Garmin/GPX.

## Using Google Earth

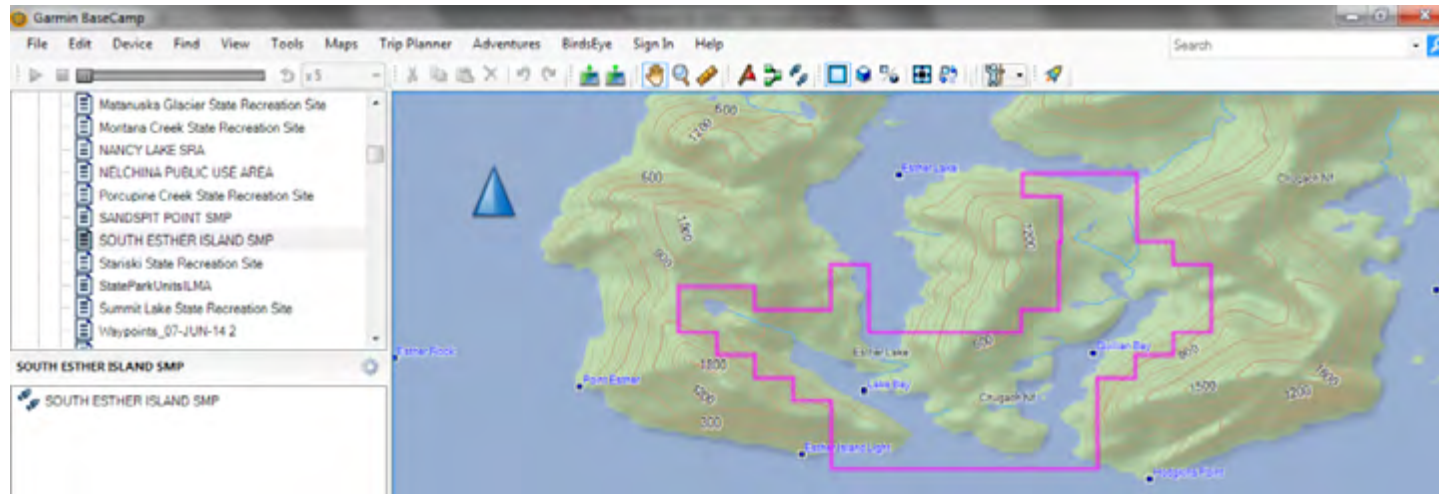
1. File > Open > Select the file from your desktop computer (you may have to select Gps (gpx, loc, mps, etc.) file type in the bottom right-hand corner of the "Open" box > OK.
2. In Places (toward bottom of left-hand navigation bar > Temporary Places > GPS Device > right-click to rename the shape.



## Using Garmin MapSource

1. Download the file(s) a location of your choice on your desktop computer  
Open Garmin MapSource
2. File > Open > Select the file from your desktop computer. The file will appear in the "Tracks" tab
3. Double click on the file to open the Properties box. Select your desired color in the "Color" box.

# Caching Tricks, Tips, and Tools



## Using Garmin BaseCamp:

1. Download the file(s) a location of your choice on your desktop computer.
2. Open Garmin BaseCamp.
3. Left click on Library/My Collection.
4. Right click, New Folder.
5. Right click on the New Folder and rename it to "StateParks" for another name of your choice.
6. File > Import into "StateParks" and select the desired GPX file from your desktop computer.
7. Right click on the State Park you wish to view > Show on Map.
8. If you wish to change the boundary color, Double click on the boundary on the map.
9. Select a different color from the pull down menu in the upper right-hand corner of the "Properties" box.

10. Alternatively, you may double click on the track log in the lower-left window to open the file properties.
11. To send the file to your Garmin GPS, File > Export > Save as File Type \*.gpx and save to Garmin Oregon/Garmin/GPX folder. Alternatively, you may save the file to the memory chip at Driveletter:Garmin/GPX.

Shifting topics, Groundspeak recently directed local Reviewers to "toggle off" the "Needs Maintenance" attribute on a cache page if there are no evident issues with the cache. This is in part due to cachers improperly using the "Needs Maintenance" log rather than the "Didn't Find It" log when they could not find a cache. If you are aware of a cache with the "Needs Maintenance" attribute that shouldn't be there, you may e-mail me the GC# of the cache with a reason why the attribute should be removed and I will remove it.

*Please note: the screenshots are blurrier in our newsletter than they actually appear in the applications.*

# Around The State

## GEOCACHEALASKA! MEMBERSHIP

There are two membership levels at GeocacheAlaska! Inc.

Sourdough Membership (formerly known as Premium Membership) affords you discounts in the GeocacheAlaska! online and traveling stores and events that have an entrance fee (Geofest, etc.), voting rights in Board of Directors elections and a warm fuzzy feeling for helping underwrite the organization's operating expenses that include web hosting, printing, banners, post office box fees, event prizes, and lots of other things that are required to make things happen. Because GeocacheAlaska! is an incorporated 501(c) (3) tax exempt organization, your membership dues are tax deductible.

If you cannot join as a Sourdough at this time, you may support GeocacheAlaska! by joining as a Cheechako (formerly known as Associate) Member. This will allow you to receive the monthly newsletter and e-mail announcements. More members at any level gives GeocacheAlaska!'s more clout and credibility during land manager conversations, so sign up today!

There are four ways you can join GeocacheAlaska! at the Sourdough level for \$20/year.

1. Navigate to the [GeocacheAlaska! webpage](#) and click on the "Subscribe" button to set up an automatic subscription which will renew annually. Please enter your caching name in the provided box.
2. Navigate to the [GeocacheAlaska! webpage](#) and click on "Add to Cart" to purchase an annual membership.
3. Navigate to the [GeocacheAlaska! webpage](#) to download a membership form you can print and mail with your payment.
4. Attend one of the upcoming GeocacheAlaska! events and speak to any Board Member.

Find us online at:

1. GeocacheAlaska! Website: <http://www.geocachealaska.org>
2. GeocacheAlaska! Forums: <http://geocachealaska.proboards.com/index.cgi>
3. Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/geocachealaska/>
4. GeocacheAlaska! Facebook Page: [GeocacheAlaska! Page](#)
5. E-mail to [contact@geocachealaska.org](mailto:contact@geocachealaska.org)

## JOIN US ON FACEBOOK & Twitter!

Like our official [GeocacheAlaska! Page](#) on Facebook to keep up to date on things happening with GeocacheAlaska!

Also, join the official [GeocacheAlaska! Group](#) on Facebook to stay in touch and share your activities with fellow members of the geocaching community. This is where GeocacheAlaska! members can plan caching adventures, post photos, and pass messages within the membership ranks. This Facebook Group is designed to be yet another member benefit for Sourdoughs and Cheechakos alike. Visit our Group and request to Join so you can start viewing and participating with GeocacheAlaska! and your fellow geocachers.

 [@GeocacheAlaska](#) Follow GeocacheAlaska! Inc. on Twitter!

## STATE PARKS PERMITS

Caches may be published within Alaska State Parks! All caches must have the permit number on the inside of the cache along with the cache owner's contact information. On the outside of the cache, you must write "Alaska State Parks Permit #15-KA-1994 Geocache AK" in permanent marking. The cache listing must state "Cache placed under GeocacheAlaska! Park Use Permit #15-KA-1994" within the description section. Before submitting a cache listing within one of the parks, please thoroughly read the complete list of stipulations in the permit, which may be [downloaded](#) from the GeocacheAlaska! website.

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The editors of *Around the State* would like to hear from you. Submit articles or suggestions to [editor@geocachealaska.org](mailto:editor@geocachealaska.org) Previous editions of *Around the State* are now on our website. If you have missed previous newsletters, check out the series [here](#).

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